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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/562,334

05/12/2005

Jean-Max Huet

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3598

24235 7590 08/18/2009  
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EXAMINER

BOUCHELLE, LAURA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3763

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/18/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/562,334	<b>Applicant(s)</b> HUET, JEAN-MAX	
	<b>Examiner</b> LAURA A. BOUCHELLE	<b>Art Unit</b> 3763	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/25/09.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's arguments, see Amendment After Final, filed 2/25/09, with respect to the combination of Huet with MacGregor have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-8 has been withdrawn.

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear if the implanted chamber is being positively claimed. The examiner cannot determine if the invention is the combination of the anti-stick device and the chamber or just the subcombination of the anti-stick device. Lines 1-3 recite a device "for the purpose of feeding a chamber implanted under the skin" which is interpreted to be an intended use limitation not requiring the chamber, but later in the body of the claim is recited "said first pair of branches on the skin in line with said implanted chamber". The claim should be amended to clarify the subject matter being claimed.

4. For the purposes of this examination, the limitations including the chamber are interpreted as intended use limitations.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. Claims 1, 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huet (EP 1116493) in view of Brierley et al (US 5116324). Huet discloses an anti-stick device comprising

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a needle 17 having a bend, a needle holding panel F, a base panel C, a covering panel A, walls, E,B, the base panel and the needle holding panel having holes 15, 16 to receive the needle, the base panel having branches D, and the needle holding panel having lugs 9, 10. See Fig.1. The device functions in the same manner as applicant's invention. See Figs. 1-10. The device of Huet is capable of being used to access an implanted chamber.

3. Claim 1 differs from Huet in calling for the base panel and the needle holding panel to be curved. Brierly teaches a device for covering an IV site on a patient's skin wherein the device is formed with a curve so that it can conform to the comfortably to the curve of the back of the hand and wrist area to provide increased security to the site (Col. 7, lines 39-49). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the device of Huet to have an overall curved contour to the skin contacting surface as taught by Brierly to conform to the patient's body to increase stability of the needle and thus patient comfort.

4. Claims 2-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huet in view of Brierly as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Knotek (US 5531704). Claim 2 differs from Huet in calling for the device to include a hard plastic material on the first pair of branches on the base panel. Knotek teaches a needle puncture protection device have a panel configuration similar to that of Huet but further including a hard plastic portion 30 that maintains the needle in the safety position (Sol. 7, lines 9-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the device of Huet to include a hard plastic portion as taught by Knotek that ensures that the needle stays within the safety enclosure to prevent accidental sticks.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAURA A. BOUCHELLE whose telephone number is (571)272-2125. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nicholas Lucchesi can be reached on 517-272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Laura A Bouchelle  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3763

/Laura A Bouchelle/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3763

/Nicholas D Lucchesi/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3763